Patent claims

1. Method for printing of a separator sheet, in particular with the aid of an electrophotographic printer or copier,

in which, with the aid of a first program module, at least first data are generated that contain at least information for formatting of elements of at least one separator sheet, which elements are to be printed on a register tab,

the first data are processed with the aid of a second program module, whereby second data are generated via which print data for generation of a print image on the register tab are added to a print data stream,

and in which at least the register tab of the one separator sheet is printed with a print image by an electrophotographic printer or copier.

2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that third data that contain data of the elements to be generated on the register tab are generated with the aid of the first program module.

3. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that data that contain elements to be generated on the register tab are generated with the aid of a third program module.

4. Method according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the second data and the third data are respectively stored in a file.

5. Method according to any of the claims 2 through 4, characterized in that the third data contain text data and/or data of graphic elements.

6. Method according to any of the claims 2 through 5, characterized in that the first data and the third data are processed for a first print job with the aid of the second program module, whereby the third data are associated with the first print job, and that the first data and fourth data are processed for a second print job of the [sic] second program module, whereby the fourth data are associated with the second print job.

7. Method according to claim 6, characterized in that a file name of a first file in which the first data are stored and the file name of the file in which the third data are stored or, respectively, the file name of the file in which the fourth data are stored are specified as parameters in the invocation of the second program module.

8. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that fifth data for generation of a further print image in at least one section of the separator sheet outside of the register tab are processed by the second program module such that print data for generation of the print image are added to the print data stream.

9. Method according to any of the claims 2 through 8, characterized in that the third, fourth and/or fifth data can be selected via the first and/or second program module and/or can be generated with its [sic] help.

10. Method according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the fifth data are associated with the respective print job.

11. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the first data contain at least information for arrangement of elements of a separator sheet set to be printed on register tabs, and that with the aid of the second program module second data are generated via which print

data for generation of respectively one print image on each register tab of the separator sheet set are added to a print data stream.

12. Method according to claim 11, characterized in that the separator sheet set serves as a sorting aid for a loose-leaf system.

13. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the first program module is contained as a program element in a desktop publishing program module as a Java applet, plug-in program module or as a linked program element.

14. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that an assistant function with which all necessary information for generation of the first data can be activated can be activated in the first program module.

15. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that a view of the separator sheet with register tab and/or of a separator sheet set with the register tabs is simulated and displayed with the aid of the first program module.

16. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the second program module is executed by a second data processing system, in particular a print server or print preprocessing computer.

17. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the information for formatting contains specifications regarding the dimensions of the register tab, the position of the register tab in a separator sheet set, the paper format of the separator sheet, the alignment of a register tab text such as font type, font size, font color, background color and/or display type of the text.

18. Method according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that a preview of a separator sheet with the selected settings is possiblet [sic] in the first program module, whereby data with the settings as parameters are transferred to the second program module, the second program module transfers the generated second data to the first program module, and whereby the first program module [sic] the second data are further processed into display data with the aid of a program element.

19. Arrangement for printing of a separator sheet, in particular with the aid of an electrophotographic printer or copier,

in which a first data processing system executes a first program module that generates first data that contain at least information for formatting of elements of at least one separator sheet, which elements are to be printed on a register tab,

a second data processing system executes a second program module that processes the first data and generates the first second data, whereby print data for generation of a print image on the register tab can be added to a print data stream with the aid of the second data,

and in which an electrophotographic printer or copier prints at least the register tab of the separator sheet with a print image.

20. Computer software according to claim 20, characterized in that the computer software is stored on a storage medium.

21. Computer software according to claim 20, characterized in that the computer software is stored on a storage medium.

22. Printing or copying system for implementation of a method according to any of the claims 1 through 18.

5